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Land Settlement in Alaska

Merged With
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ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
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GENERAL INFORMATION

Since 1981, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has been involved in assessing the federal public lands it administers in order to determine which lands might be open to public use and acquisition. This action was initially directed by then Secretary of the Interior James Watt in compliance with Section 1008 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act.

In September 1983, two parcels of land totalling 10,250 acres were opened to settlement in an area called Slana, located in Southcentral Alaska approximately 70 miles northeast of Glennallen. The lands are available under several of the Alaska settlement laws; the headquarters site, the homesite, and the trade and manufacturing site acts.

A U.S. citizen may receive title to only one homesite, one headquarters site, and one trade and manufacturing site. Filing requirements for the three settlement categories are available in separate publications from the BLM offices in Alaska. Use and occupancy must begin prior to October 21, 1986, when the settlement laws will cease to be in effect.

FACTS ABOUT THE SLANA SETTLEMENT AREA

Location

The Slana parcels encompass approximately 10,250 acres in southcentral Alaska. The parcels are located approximately 70 miles northeast of Glennallen off the Glenn Highway, near the junction of the Tok Cutoff and Nabesna Road.

Nearest communities outside the parcels are Slana, Chistochina, Tok, and Mentasta.

Approximate distance from Anchorage to the parcels is 250 miles.

Access

The most common method of access is by automobile to Slana and then via boat and all-terrain vehicle to the parcels. There are airstrips at Chistochina and Tok, and an unimproved airstrip near Slana. The Federal Government does not guarantee overland access across private lands to settlement claims.

Nearby rivers are the Slana and Copper Rivers.

Services

No local government, school, post office, or commercial facilities exist within the parcels. The nearest post office is in Slana. The University of Alaska has a rural education center in Tok.

The nearest state trooper resides in Tok. (70 miles)

Forest fire protection is provided by the State of Alaska. (80 miles)

The closest doctor and hospital are in Glennallen.

Climate

Slana is representative of the average climate for the area. The following is a seasonal temperature range:

summer	39° to 69°
winter	-50° to 36°
extreme low	-93°

precipitation 10 inches, including 74 inches snow.

Water Quality

The surface water quality is unacceptable due to high silt loads in most of the area's glacially fed streams, particularly in the summer. Surface waters in the lowland areas may contain objectionable amounts of iron and organic materials and frequently must be treated for use.

Vegetation

The area encompasses a variety of ecosystems-alpine; barrens; moist tundra; upland spruce - hardwood forest; lowland spruce - hardwood forest; low brush - muskeg bog; high brush; bottomland spruce; poplar forest.

Terrain

Soils are of various types. Mountain slopes above tree line have well-drained, shallow, stony to gravelly to loamy soils; low rolling moraines are gravelly and loamy; flat lowlands are silty and clay-like.

Minerals

Certain lands will be open for mineral leasing but not mineral location. Historically, there has not been any mineral activity in the area. No mining claims exist and at this time mineral potential appears low.

Lifestyle

The lifestyle of rural residents in Alaska is very different from that of most United States residents today. Most of the services one takes for granted are not available. Often basic supplies must be ordered through the mail and shipped to villages on barges. Sources of employment are few. Hunting and fishing are regulated by the State Department of Fish and Game with bag limits and seasonal limits.

BASIC INFORMATION ON SETTLEMENT CLAIMS

Case Type	Proof Period (Maximum)	Other Proof	Cost	Max. Acreage
Homesite	Reside 5 mos. each year for three years during a five (5) year period	Build a habitable house	\$2.50 per acre	5
Headquarters Site	Up to five (5) years	Prove business	\$2.50 per acre plus survey cost	5
Trade and Manufacturing Site	Up to five (5) years	Prove business	\$2.50 per acre plus survey cost	80

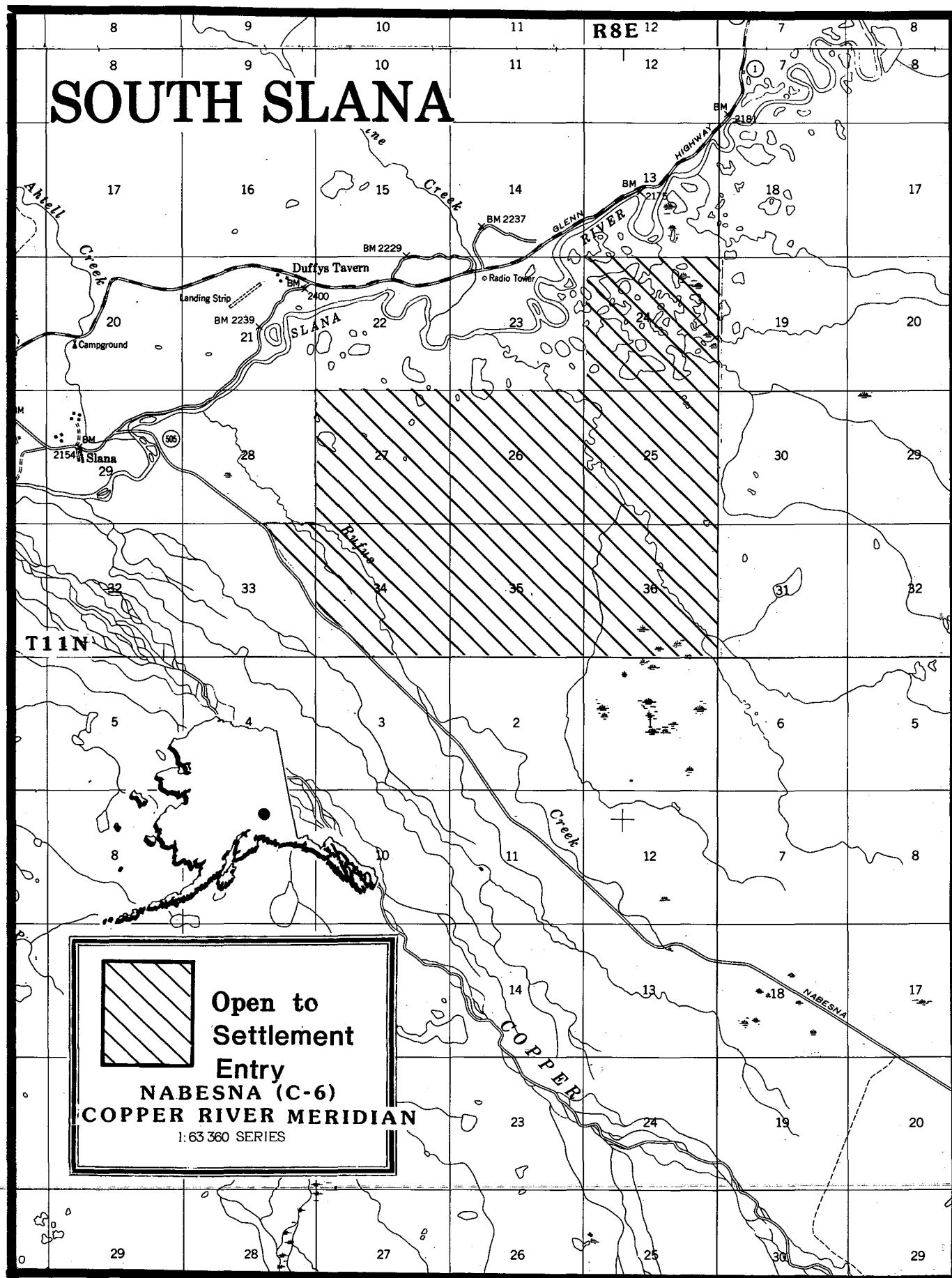
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF SLANA PARCELS

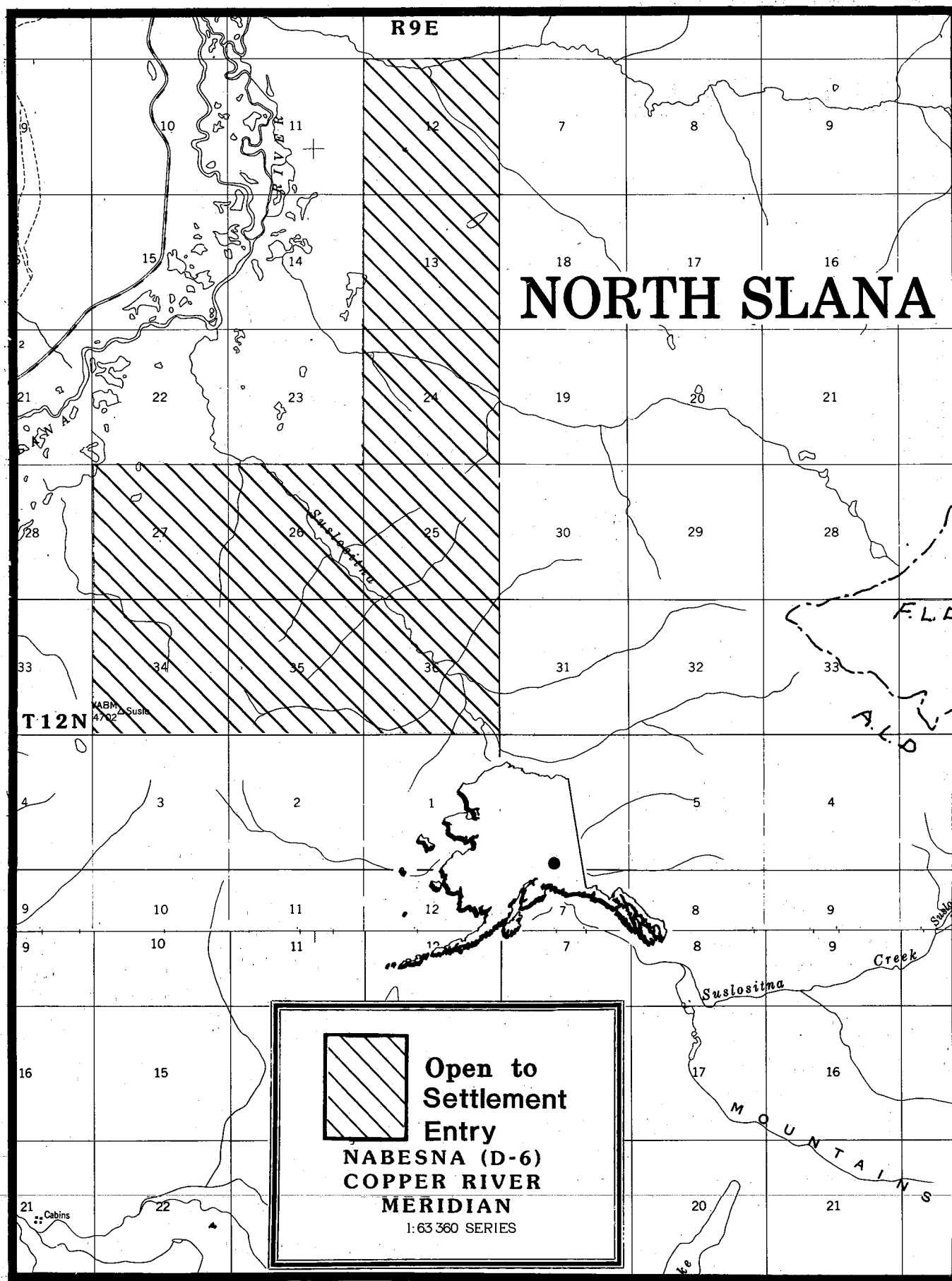
COPPER RIVER MERIDIAN

T. 11 N., R. 8 E.,
Secs. 24 to 27, inclusive; those portions of Secs. 33 and 34 lying outside the Wrangell-Saint Elias National Park and Preserve; Secs. 35 and 36.

T. 12 N., R. 9 E.,
Secs. 12 and 13; Secs. 24 to 27, inclusive; Secs. 34, 35, and 36.

The areas described aggregate approximately 10,250 acres.





NOTICE OF LOCATION

The Slana parcel land opening was on September 26, 1983. Before staking the land, a prospective claimant should visit the nearest BLM office for guidance on land status, locations and staking requirements. Within 90 days after a tract has been staked on the ground, a Notice of Location must be filed with:

Bureau of Land Management
Anchorage District Office
Branch of Casefile Processing
4700 East 72nd Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99507
(907) 267-1203

Various maps are available of the Slana settlement parcel area. For a map order form which lists all available maps, contact:

Bureau of Land Management
Anchorage District Office
Branch of Casefile Processing
4700 East 72nd Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99507
(907) 267-1200

Alaska residents may order topographic maps from:

U.S. Geological Survey
101 12th Avenue, Box 12
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
(907) 456-7535

Residents of the continental U.S. may order from:

U.S. Geological Survey
Branch of Distribution
Central Region
Box 25286
Federal Center
Denver, Colorado 80225

Maps may be bought in person from:

U.S. Geological Survey
701 C Street, Box 53 [Room E-146]
Anchorage, Alaska 99513
(907) 271-4307

U.S. Geological Survey
4230 University Drive
Anchorage, Alaska 99508-4664
(907) 561-5555

Information on economic and cost of living may be obtained from:

State of Alaska
Department of Labor
Research and Analysis Section
P.O. Box 1149
Juneau, Alaska 99802

Subscriptions to local papers will provide information about current events and cost of living.

Anchorage Daily News
Pouch 6616
Anchorage, AK 99502
(907) 274-2561

Copper Valley Views
Copper Center, AK 99573

Anchorage Times
Box 40
Anchorage, AK 99510
(907) 279-5622